

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 73
By Cooper J

A RESOLUTION to commend the Tennessee Jaycees organization for its honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as host of the annual Model Legislature.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable organizations that have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens by promoting respect and appreciation for the democratic process; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Jaycees is one such worthy group, which evinces the greatest integrity and probity in encouraging its belief that "it is the right and responsibility of every citizen to be aware of the issues, to interact with our elected representatives, and to be involved in various aspects of government"; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Jaycees works with the United States Junior Chamber to promote its members' involvement in government affairs; many of the Tennessee Jaycee chapters host Voter Registration projects and debates on social issues with local officials; and

WHEREAS, in such capacity, the Tennessee Jaycees has hosted the Model Legislature for more than thirty years, and the organization asks each of its chapters to encourage participation; and

WHEREAS, the Model Legislature is a yearly opportunity for the members of the Tennessee Jaycees to learn about how legislation is enacted, to see Parliamentary Procedure at work, and to be encouraged to more active involvement in the government; and

WHEREAS, for many years, the Model Legislature was held in the State Capitol Building, and Tennessee's elected officials were able to direct the proceedings; recently, the Model Legislature has been held in conjunction with the annual Jaycees State Convention; and

WHEREAS, the recent change of venue has resulted in increased participation for the Model Legislature, and sixty-six Model Legislators attended last year's Jaycee General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, individual members and Jaycee chapters are invited to send proposals for bills to the Jaycee Governor; during the proceedings that follow the State Executive Committee Meeting, members are invited to debate all bills that are brought to committee; and

WHEREAS, after a night of spirited discussion and strategizing, all bills that are passed in committee are brought to vote in the Jaycee General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, every effort is made to send many of the bills that are ratified into Jaycee law to the State Legislature, that the members of the Tennessee General Assembly might understand the concerns of the Tennessee Jaycees, and in the hopes that these issues could spur discussion in State government; and

WHEREAS, throughout the group's exemplary tenure as host of the Model Legislature and its many years of service to the people of this State, the Tennessee Jaycees has distinguished itself as a public-spirited organization of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Jaycees is a civic group that is highly respected throughout the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Jaycees organization is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State", and its membership should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby commend the Tennessee Jaycees organization for its honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee as host of the annual Model Legislature and salute its unswerving commitment to ensuring the strong and healthy future of the democratic process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.